Embassy sources indicate a substantial increase in criminal activity over the past year. Hotels, international residential compounds, commercial establishments, non-governmental organizations and their facilities, and occasionally host nation facilities have been targets of criminal acts throughout the country. Daytime shootings are also on the rise.

In Juba and other cities in South Sudan, numerous armed robberies have occurred at compounds and establishments frequently patronized by the international community, as well as daytime home burglaries. Some of these incidents have been violent in nature. Further, there has been an increase in daytime vehicle break-ins, usually with entry through a broken window.

U.S. citizens should:

- Be cognizant of persons and vehicles around you at all times.
- Remember to vary your routes and times daily.
- Leave expensive jewelry and other valuables at home.
- Do not leave items clearly visible in a vehicle even if it is attended by a driver.
- Avoid large gatherings where pickpocketing may occur.
- Keep important belongings on your person rather than in your bag.
- Always maintain good situational awareness.
- If you choose to carry a bag, keep it close to and in front of your body.

For further information:

- See the <u>State Department's travel website</u> for the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country Specific Information for South Sudan.</u>
- Enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (<u>STEP</u>) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Contact the <u>U.S. Embassy in South Sudan</u>, located at Kololo Rd next to the EU compound, at +211 912 105 188, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays. The Embassy is closed on South Sudan and U.S. federal holidays. The after-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +211 912 105 107 or + 1 202 216 6279 ext 253.

- For current information on safety and security, call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.